

SENATOR BARNETT: First of all if Nebraska would refuse to adopt the 1978 code they would proceed with the 1975 code as that is already in the state's statutes. Then what would happen, if there was new procedures, new wiring procedures found, new wire types found which would improve the electrical business and improve the electrical systems throughout the state, they would be outdated. I don't know if it would work on contractual procedures for federal construction and things like that but what it does, they continue to improve wiring procedures and electrical work through the national research in the national electric code. Other states use it and the state has adopted that as a guideline for their state electrical work. It will reduce the anxiety of fires in many cases. They find new types of methods, new ways, new conduits and all this information that we need in the electrical business. Now it's not going to make you go back and rewire everything. It don't do that. It doesn't make you rewire what you've already got. What it does, it sets out procedures to follow when it comes time for remodeling or new construction and that type of thing and they update it in that facility. Now I don't think there is any federal funds that tie to this except what might be attached to it with the construction of a new federal facilities and things like this, Senator Kremer, and I cannot answer that honestly.

SENATOR KREMER: I may want to come back to you, Senator Barnett. Senator Labeledz.

SENATOR LABEDZ: I do have here that it says the 1978 edition of the National Electric Code was adopted by the National Fire Protection Association at its annual meeting held May 16 through the 19th, 1977, in Washington. The National Electrical Code is sponsored by the National Fire Protection Association under the auspices of the American Standards Institute and the National Fire Protection has acted as a sponsor of the National Electrical Code since 1911 and it goes on to say why and it lists all these changes and I would be more than happy to give you a copy of it.

SENATOR KREMER: Would either one of you be able to answer this question for me? I think the rurals have been concerned. I think this is Senator Lamb's concern. Does this new code in any way affect what an owner can do that erects a building out in the rural area? He does not come under the city code but he puts up a building, who is responsible for inspecting that wiring and does this in any way change the law as we now have it today?

SENATOR BARNETT: I can answer that two ways. If they would do their own wiring on the farm it wouldn't affect them at all because they don't have inspectors go out there now and this doesn't change that. This doesn't change that at all. This is the guideline that the electricians in the State of Nebraska use and it's a guideline that they have used since they implemented some kind of guidelines for electrical construction, if I can use that word. It does not affect what the farmer can do on his own farm because he's not going to ask for an inspector to come out anyway. It will affect the electrician that works for a city or a county that is hired to do the work in the fact that he will follow the guidelines set out by this code as to how to wire if you hire somebody to do that. Then if he has to be inspected the inspectors of your electrical division in the State of Nebraska follow the code to see that he followed the construction procedure.